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SUBJECT: BULGARIA RESPONSE TO CLIMATE CHANGE DEMARCHE

REF: SECSTATE 097542

1. (SBU) We delivered reftel talking points to Detelina Peicheva, Chief Expert of the International Cooperation Department at the Environment Ministry on October 1. Peicheva expressed appreciation for what she described as the United States' new position on climate change, which is now closer to the EU's climate policy.

2. (SBU) Peicheva said that the Bulgarian government is still developing its position on Copenhagen for internal EU negotiations. She expects the EU to agree on a common position at its next Environment Council meeting on October 21.

3. (SBU) As required under the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, the Bulgarian government expects to formally present a national emissions allocation plan to the EU in mid-October. Peicheva said that progress on the allocation plan has been slow due to lack of administrative capacity at the Environment Ministry. She told us there are only three working-level staff who are dedicated to climate change.
SUTTON